

October 15, 2003

Ms. Elizabeth Rolando, Chief Clerk
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Avenue
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9280

Dear Ms. Rolando,

Enclosed please find the Joint Petition for Approval of the Fourth Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between SBC Illinois and Z-Tel Communications, Inc.

Please acknowledge receipt by returning the extra copy of this letter.

Sincerely,

Enclosures

STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

ILLINOIS BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY))	
(SBC Illinois))	
and Z-Tel Communications, Inc.)	
)	03 - _____
Joint Petition for Approval of Fourth)	
Amendment to the Interconnection)	
Agreement dated October 2, 2003,)	
pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252)	

**JOINT PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
Z-Tel Communications, Inc. and SBC Illinois**

Illinois Bell Telephone Company ("SBC Illinois") and Z-Tel Communications, Inc. ("Z-Tel") through counsel, hereby request that the Commission review and approve the attached Fourth Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement dated October 2, 2003 pursuant to Sections 252(a)(1) and 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 47 U.S.C. §§ 252 (a)(1), 252(e), (the "Act"). In support of their request, the parties state as follows:

1. The Parties have agreed that the Interconnection Agreement be amended to provide for certain terms and conditions and have entered into this Amendment to set forth such terms and conditions.
2. Pursuant to Section 252(e)(2) the Commission may only reject a negotiated agreement if it finds that (1) the agreement discriminates against another carrier or (2) implementation of the Agreement would not be consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. Neither basis for rejection is present here.
3. Copies of the Fourth Amendment are available for public inspection in SBC Illinois and Z-Tel's public offices.

WHEREFORE, SBC Illinois and Z-Tel respectfully request that the Commission approve the attached Fourth Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement under Section 252(e) of the Act as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted this _____ day of October, 2003

SBC ILLINOIS

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

ILLINOIS BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY)
(SBC Illinois))
and Z-Tel Communications, Inc.)

03 - _____

Joint Petition for Approval of Fourth)
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STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF JOINT PETITION FOR APPROVAL

I, Eddie A. Reed, Jr., am Director-Contract Management for Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P./Illinois Bell Telephone Company d/b/a SBC Illinois Negotiations and Interconnection, and submit this Statement in Support of the Joint Petition for Approval of the Fourth Amendment to the Negotiated Interconnection Agreement between Z-Tel Communications, Inc. and SBC Illinois.

The attached Fourth Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement (the "Agreement") between Illinois Bell Telephone Company ("SBC Illinois") and ZTel Communications, Inc. ("Z-Tel") was reached through voluntary negotiations between the parties. Accordingly, SBC Illinois and Z-Tel request approval pursuant to Sections 252(a)(1), 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (sometimes referred to as the "Act").

The Amendment meets all the requirements of the Act and the Commission should approve it.

The Agreement is amended as follows:

- Certain rates in the Pricing Schedule to the Agreement are removed and replaced with the corresponding new rates established in Dockets 98-0396 and 00-0700.
- This amendment shall not modify or extend the Effective Date or Term of the underlying Agreement, but rather, shall be coterminous with the underlying Agreement.
- Except as modified herein, all other terms and conditions of the underlying agreement shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.